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JOURNAL OF THE BARBER COIN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

OFFICERS

Philip Carrigan	. President
Russell Easterbrooks	. Editor, BCCS Journal
Paul Reuter	. Secretary/Treasurer
Steve Szcerbiak	. Variety Coordinator
Regular Contributing Editor	. Jack White

ADDRESSES

For articles, submitting coins to be photographed, information for Barber Bits, Letters to the Editor, advertisement, layouts, etc.: Russell Easterbrooks, 40 Mountain Road, Worcester, VT 05682.

For variety information, questions and comments: Steve Szcerbiak, P.O. Box 244, Olympia Fields, IL 60461, Email: sscerbiak@aol.com

For membership dues (\$15.00 per year; Canadian Residents \$20.00), and information about the BCCS, back issues of the BCCS Journal (\$3.00 each): Paul Reuter, 415 Ellen Drive, Brookhaven, MS 39601.

For Society issues in general, etc.: Phil Carrigan, 1105 N. Crescent Court, Round Lake, IL 60073, Tel. 847-937-5129 day, 847-546-5609 evening, 847-938-2510 fax, Email: philip.carrigan@abbott.com

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BCCS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to spring and the BCCS Journal!

During last year I wrote about the keen interest a large fraction of members have in Barber varieties. I further spoke about creating a position of Variety Coordinator. I am most pleased to announce member Steve Szcerbiak has accepted this position. He called me in February and indicated his interest in this position (after

some careful deliberation). I have known Steve and his wife Barbara from the beginning of the Society. They attend many Chicago area shows and travel to distant places as well. Steve is always looking for varieties at these setting. He has a great encyclopedic knowledge of reported varieties and much appreciates the discoveries of others. I hope members will agree, he is the perfect choice. Steve can be reached as follows:

P.O. Box 244 Olympia Fields, IL 60461 708-756-0836 evenings sscerbiak@aol.com

Russell and I spoke recently about informing members what upcoming shows we plan on attending. There is some guess-work in this particularly due to the lead time for the *Journal* and planning one's schedule in advance. Paul, Steve, Russell and I will do our best to let you know what shows we expect to attend. The outcome from this may amount to a simple hello to a fellow member on to a planned meeting, we will see what happens.

Continuing with shows and meetings, Chicago is the site for the 1999 ANA Convention. The dates are August 11 to 15 at the Rosemont Convention Center. The BCCS meeting is set for August 14th at 9:30 AM. We meet long standing members at various ANA Convention sites, you can be included! Consider Chicago is in the middle of our land, an attraction for the entire family and the site of the legend 1991 Centennial Anniversary ANA Convention.

Planned shows:

June Baltimore Show August ANA



Numismatic regards, Phil Carrigan

FROM THE EDITOR





As you can see by the new red cover, this was the overwhelming color choice by the membership, with blue coming in second. There were a great many appreciative comments about our officers role in producing our journal, as well as promises by many to contribute more. Your articles are very much needed, and as I begin my third year as your editor, I look forward to hearing from you. Your articles will also be judged by our membership for prizes in the BCCS literary contest, so send me something!

Your editor does more than just writing and research as you can see by the accompanying photo! My friends and I do an annual winter camping trip in the sub-Arctic conditions on Mt. Washington. Day one was the coldest of the three days we camped below the summit, 7 degrees, with wind speeds around 50 miles an hour. A good time was had by all, as our tent heater and sleeping bags kept the harsh elements at bay.

As you read in Phil's message, Steve Szcerbiak has volunteered to be our Variety Coordinator. Those of you who sent me questions about Barber varieties, and who have not yet received a response from me, I am sorry for the delay. I will pass your letters along to Steve. One member in particular was looking for information about the 1897 half with a repunched date. Other than Breens, I am unaware of any other comments about this variety. If any member has information on this variety or such a coin, drop Steve or myself a note.



Your editor will also be busy this fall as I have excepted a part time job as head football coach at Vermont's capital city's high school.

Many members have not yet renewed their dues! If you received a notice in this journal, PLEASE send Paul your dues, or this will be your LAST JOURNAL! ❖

Enjoy Collecting Russell Easterbrooks



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

When renewing your membership for 1999, most of you members took the time to fill out the little questionnaire and sent it along with your check. Many of you had a nice comment or two to add and I appreciate the thanks offered and am sure Russell does too.

I have been Treasurer of the Society for almost nine years and for the last five years, both Treasurer and Secretary. While it does take some time, that's one thing

I have, and it has been enjoyable. So I'll keep doing my best as long as I can. From the few contacts I've had with members it is obvious that BCCS people are nice people.

Renewal time brought quite a few changes of address and I think I caught all of them. If not, or if you move during the year, please drop me a line.

I would like to make a comment or two about Russell. He really has an enthusiastic approach towards getting out the *Journals* and I think he has done a great job. I'm sure he spends a lot more time on BCCS matters than I do but I have yet to hear him complain. I hope that members will do more to support Russell and the way to do that is to write something for the *Journal*. If it's weighty, fine. But it doesn't have to be. It can just be your coin collecting experiences or whatever. It is important because without articles, we don't have a *Journal* and without a *Journal*, we will lose the BCCS experience. So please help Russell and give writing a try. �



Thanks, Paul Reuter Treasurer/Secretary

BCCS ADVERTISEMENT RATES

¹ / ₄ page ¹ / ₂ page	1 issue \$12 1 issue \$20 1 issue \$30 1 issue \$70	4 issues \$40 4 issues \$70 4 issues \$100 4 issues \$250

1 page inside front or rear cover 1 issue \$80 4 issues\$300 1 page outside rear cover 1 issue \$125 4 issues\$400

FROM THE VARIETY COORDINATOR

Most members of the society do not know me, however I expect this will soon change. I have been a member since 1991 and I have witnessed the accelerated interest in Barber die varieties. During this time I have met many serious enthusiasts who have made significant variety discoveries. But for reasons I cannot explain, the findings are never reported to the society. In this new role I intend to change this. Members are now free to report discoveries without having to write an article and can remain anonymous. No matter how insignificant you may feel your variety is I want to hear about it!

We, as the society, need this information to be published. I am looking forward to working with you for the benefit of today's and future collectors. ❖

Steve Szcerbiak P.O. Box 244 Olympia Fields, Il. 60461

Email Sscerbiak@AOL.com Eve. Phone - 708-756-0836



THE JOURNAL NEEDS YOUR ARTICLES!

Remember your articles submissions automatically enter you in the BCCS Literary Contest. The article receiving the most member votes will win a 1st place prize of \$50, second prize will be \$25, and third place will be a free BCCS one year membership. So, make sure your membership is up to date, and get your article in the mail to Russell at the address on page one.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS JUNE 30th

MEMBER FEEDBACK

Many society members took the time to offer comments on their membership renewal applications. These comments are most helpful in making sure our society and *Journal* represents our members best interests.

Your editor has reviewed the comments and put together the following summary. Members asked some of the following questions:

- Names and Address of Barber Members? This has been discussed in the past, however this possesses confidentiality problems which far out weigh any advantage to the membership.
- Barber Exhibits at Major Coin Shows? This is an excellent idea. If a member lives near or plans to attend a major show, please contact the show coordinator with your interest in exhibiting. I will gladly help you in any way possible and get you a few BCCS *Journals* to distribute at the show. Our society can always use exposure, to interest possible new members!
- Information on Regional Meetings. Any member who would like to make arrangements to hold a BCCS meeting at your area show, please do so! Contact me and I will help in any way I can. Dates, times, exhibits, etc. can all be published in the *Journal* with advance notice. Take some notes about the meeting, discussions, attendance etc. and I will do a follow-up notice in the *Journal*. Your President, Editor, and Secretary/Treasurer simply can't attend many shows to conduct meetings, so feel free and drop me a note with your particulars.
- Life Dues. This has also been discussed in the past, yet most members were not interested in this. A figure would also be difficult to arrive at with changing cost in the long run.

Members had quite a few article suggestions, including;

- Rarity and availability of Barbers
- VG to VF Barbers
- Population reports of all grades of key dates
- More History surrounding Barbers
- Personal experiences
- William Barber
- Patterns of Barbers
- Articles about lowest mintage coins

Members also listed their Barber interest, with quite a few collecting all three Barber denominations. The figures totaled up as follows;

• Dimes 66, Quarters 54, and Halves 67

A NEW 1901 O/HORIZONTAL O BARBER DIME

by Michael S. Fey Ph.D.

This article is about the discovery of a rare die variety, a **new** 1901 o/ Horizontal o Barber dime. It is also an article of a discovery shared by several members of the Barber Coin Collector's Society, and should result in **new information** that will benefit **all** members of our Society.

In the Fall, 1998, I wrote an article with photos showing two different obverses for the 1905 o Micro "o" Barber dime. In a follow-up article in the Winter, 1998, I wrote a second article on the relative rarity of the two 1905 o Micro "o" dimes based on information supplied by members of the BCCS. I received numerous letters from members eager to share information about which variety they had. I enjoyed reading all the letters and was enthusiastic about such a wonderful response.

One member, Steve Szcerbiak was so helpful that he also offered me a tip. He advised that the 1901 o/Horizontal o was also a rare Barber dime, particularly in higher grades. Not one to ignore tips, I immediately learned the 1901 o/Horizontal o was listed in the 3rd edition of the Cherrypickers' Guide by Fivaz and Stanton (1994). And, I learned from the ANACS population report that few were graded by ANACS overall, and the population really thinned out above Fine.

Steve's tip led me to ask questions of other knowledgeable members of the Society, including Dave Lange, attributer at Numismatic Guaranty Corporation. He too confirmed that the 1901 o/Horizontal o was a tough coin in Fine or better.

I purchased my first 1901 o/Horizontal o at the FUN show in January, 1999. It was the only one I saw after a couple of months searching and was only a Fine. I purchased a second specimen, an ANACS AU50, recently from Teletrade. Both were struck from the same die pair. I thought, "Could there be two obverses of the 1901 o/Horizontal o as was the case with the 1905 o Micro o?"

I decided to ask Bill Fivaz to take some obverse/reverse pictures of my coins for an article in the BCCS. I was hoping a fellow member of the Society might find a new one, or at the very least we could find out how many are really out there.

Wow! Was I surprised and excited after opening a letter from Bill Fivaz dated March 21, 1999. He wrote:

"Here are your two 1901 o/Horizontal o dimes and the photos you requested. I have a Fine example of this variety which I also photographed (enclosed), and as you can see, while it is the same reverse, the obverse of my coin does not have the repunched "9" in the date, but the top of the second "1" is repunched. Also, the date on your two

coins is slightly more to the right than mine, so there are at least two different obverses for this variety.

In photo #1, I noted that both of my specimens showed a die crack from the right wreath to the left of the "o", and from the right of the "o" to the lower



1901 o/Horizontal o Barber Dime Reverse Note die cracks from "o" to each wreath



Fey Specimen: Obverse 1901 o/Horizontal o "1" Points to Middle of "B"



Fivaz Specimen Obverse 1901 o/Horizontal o "1" Points to Left Side of "B"

portion of the left wreath. I also found a die crack coming in from the rim to the wreath leaf at about 8 o'clock, as well as die clashing marks on the reverse. If this were Morgan dollars, I would guess that the reverse die didn't last too much longer.

The obverse showed repunching within the right inside of the "9" in the date. The "1" pointed to the middle of the "B" of Barber's initial. The left serif of the "1" also aligned with the left end of a denticle.

In photo #2, Fivaz' specimen, the top of the "1" is repunched, the "1" in the date points to the left side of "B" of Barber's initial, and the left serif of the "1" aligned with the middle spacing between denticles.

Now, the real questions are which is relatively rarer, and how many of both are out there?

Once again I call upon members of the BCCS to call me at 973-252-4000, contact me by E-mail at Feyms@aol.com, or write to me at RCI, P.O. Box 9157, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 with which coins by grade you have. I'll compile the data and report it in a later issue of the *Journal*.

It's amazing what we can learn about Barber coinage if we just pool our collective knowledge. This new discovery may never have occurred if it wasn't for Steve and Bill. I believe there's so much more about this scarce and beautiful series just waiting to be

discovered. All we need to do is carefully take another look at the coins we love so much, and share what we see in the *Journal*. When was the last time you sat down with your collection and enjoyed the simple pleasure of just looking through it? Isn't it time you did it again? Enjoy! ❖



1901 Barber Dime Closeup "1" points to left side of "B"



1901 Dime o/Horizontal o "1" points to middle of "B"

1907-S BARBER COINAGE

by Jack White

Collectors don't often regard San Francisco mint Barber coins of 1907 as having semi-key status. Most don't even think of them as being elusive. However, when attempting to locate these mid-series pieces in all but the lowest grades, collectors soon acquire a respect for their availability, or lack thereof. While the half dollar is generally known as tough in higher grades to most, the dime and especially the quarter are sleepers, particularly on the east coast.

A few years ago a dealer who specialized in Barber coinage in California wrote a series of articles in our journal on San Francisco mint issues and their availability on the west coast.

One would presume after ninety years that the distribution of these issues would be fairly widespread, considering these coins have been out of circulation for nearly half a century. He stated in all but the highest grades the 1907-S dime is generally grouped with the 1906-S and the 1908-S. The three coins have nearly the same mintage, a little over 3 million and are priced similarly. I've found the 1908-S to be far more common than the 1907-S. The 1906-S, while more easily found isn't available to the extent of the 1908-S, the 1911-S and 1912-S which have similar mintages are even more available. They seem to be quite plentiful. In uncirculated grades the 1907-S begins to draw away in price from its counterparts indicating a clearer degree of rarity than the above mentioned coins.

The 1907-S quarter is a definite sleeper in all grades. Even a nice VG coin isn't often found. With a mintage of 1.3 million, it was produced in comparable numbers with the 1909-S. While the 1909-S is hardly a common date Barber quarter, it is found far more often than the 1907-S. The 1911-S and 1912-S, each with mintages under one million, are comparable to the 1907-S in terms of availability. The number of 1907-S quarters struck nearly double the output of the 1912-S. Despite this I've found the 1907-S slightly tougher to obtain. Trying to locate a nice VF or above at wholesale levels is a difficult challenge. Dave Lawrence gives the 1907-S quarter an R-5 rating mint state.

The 1907-S has traditionally been the key late date Barber half in high grades, surpassing even the 1913, 1914, 1915, Philadelphia mint coins with their tiny mintages. It is the unquestioned key to the set in mint state after the 1904. Somewhat surprisingly I've found it to be the easiest 1907-S Barber to locate in the lowest grades of G and VG. When you get above F is when it gets tough. Mintage wise the 1907-S fits in quite nicely with the San Francisco mint halves of its era. Each year from 1906-1912 San Francisco struck between 1.3 and 1.9 million halves, remarkably consistently. Yet the 1907-S dwarfs its neighbors with regard to high grade rarity. A few years ago I recall a large prominent dealer had

been attempting to fill an order for an about uncirculated 1907-S half for over three years without success.

The 1907-S half is also quite popular among variety collectors. It has the best known repunched mintmark in the series. This oddity has become popular enough to now be listed in Coin World Trends. This repunched mintmark, which is doubled to the north, is quite interesting and dramatic especially in higher grades. Just another factor to lend interest in the 1907 San Francisco mint coins. ❖

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BARBER LOVE TOKENS

By Walter Miller

As someone who is both a member BCCS and the Love Token Society I read the article "AN 1894 LOVE TOKEN" by Jack White in Volume 9, #4 with great interest. When I finished the article I went to my Love Token collection to see how many Barber coins it contained. While the vast majority of my Love Tokens are Seated dimes, I did find 12 Barber dimes and 1 Barber quarter. As is the case with most Love Tokens, the engraving has been done on the reverse of my Barber Love Tokens. A brief description of my Barber Love Tokens follows:

1892 QUARTER

Engraved with the name Esther and Mar 11 in the center. Very pretty Dogwood blossoms are at 12 o'clock and 6 o'clock. The engraving is rather plain.

1892 DIME

Very large entwined initials AH beautifully engraved within a delicate border. Holed at 12 o'clock.

1892 DIME

Small bird in flight above initials EEJ. The right third of the coin is crosshatched to resemble a pineapple. Holed at 12 o'clock.

1892 DIME

Bird in flight in the center with flowers around the rim. The bird and flowers are raised as if additional metal has been applied to the coin. The bird is gold and the flowers alternate gold and copper. This is a very unusual piece.

1893 DIME

Heron standing above initials (or perhaps name) KIT. Holed at 1 o'clock and 7 o'clock.

1893 DIME

Bird in tree holding an umbrella with initials CB below. Holed at 10 o'clock and 4 o'clock.

1893 DIME

Bird with wings upraised above name HOPE. Holed at 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock.

1893 DIME

Bird with wings outstretched holding a small rectangle in its beak. The rectangle contains the initials EPL. Holed at 11 o'clock and 5 o'clock. This and the previous 1893 dimes appear to have been made by the same engraver. Even though I obtained them individually, the four may have been part of a bracelet.

1893 DIME

Three flowers with stems and leaves. The flower blossoms are small jewels that have been placed in small depressions in the coin. One jewel is red, one blue, and one green. Very pretty and only the second jeweled Love Token I have in my collection. Small loop attached at 12 o'clock.

1898 DIME

Three initials beautifully engraved filling the entire reverse. Impossible to determine the initials. Looks like it might have been done by a jeweler.

1899 DIME

Three small initials RLC surrounded by a very unusual border. Evidence of a pin having been removed from the back (obverse).

1905 DIME

The Lord's prayer surrounded by a beautiful border. A very special piece. It must have taken a monumental effort to create this piece.

Undated DIME

Initials SCA. Very plain. Date on obverse has been removed and 08 has been engraved in its place. The obverse is type II so it dates from 1900-1916. ��

Editors Note: Thanks Walter for your interesting article. There is a Love Token Society for those who are interested contact:

Robert Newhouse 5840 Tuttle Cove Rd. Manhattan, KS 66503



THE SURVIVAL RATE OF BARBER COINS IN CIRCULATION

by Russell Easterbrooks

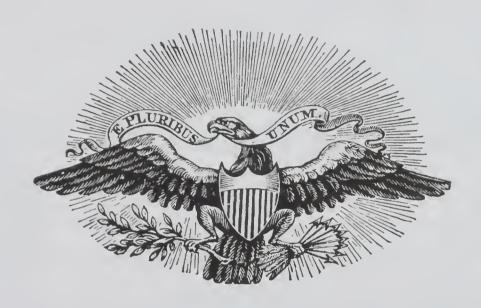
Barber coins with mintage figures less than one million have always been considered by collectors as "Key Dates". Observing mintage figures is a good indicator of a coin's rarity. Yet, many Barbers with higher mintages are difficult to find. Why? Mainly because of the survival rate of coins once they enter circulation. When estimating a coins survival numbers, collectors often use the 3% rule. That is 3% of the original mintage, are all that remain available to today's collectors. As an example of this I'll use the 1900-O dime, a favorite "sleeper coin" in the Barber series. The 3% of remaining coins from the original mintage of 2,010,000, would be 60,300. So where did all the other coins go? The majority simply wore out from hard work in circulation.

Mint Reports list large numbers of worn or damaged coins withdrawn from circulation to be melted for recoining. Unfortunately for collectors, mint records designated coins by denomination only as they were sent to the melting pot. The mint report of 1901 as an example, lists worn and damaged coins melted as follows; Dimes; 8,284.662, Quarters; 5,096,738, Half dollars as; 3,451,209. These melting figures continued to climb in subsequent mint reports well into the 1920's. It would be safe to assume that during the later years of the Barber era, over 50% of the worn coins destined for the melting pot, were Barber coins. When one examines the estimated number of coins melted by the mint over the years, the survival rate of Barber coins is a clearer picture. It is also important to remember, that the bulk of Barber coins circulated in the geographic location near where they were minted. Each of this country's mints melted worn coins from these same geographic locations. Philadelphia's mintage figures were always higher than the branch mints, however, they also melted more of these same worn out coins in later years.

Other things influencing coin survival rate were economic conditions near the location these coins were minted. Money was in short supply during economic depressions, and few people could afford to set aside coins for collections. To make matters worse, the 3% of the estimated remaining coins from these economic times usually appear in lower grades. Once again using the 1900-O dime survival rate of 3% or 60,300 coins, we can see by examining today's market that, coins are available in the lower grades of G to F. However, coins for this year grading VF and above are exceedingly difficult to obtain. In fact the available coins in these higher grades probably represent only a figure of about 6,000 of the 60,300 remaining estimate.

Collector demand brings out "sleeper coins" like the 1900-O simply because the supply does not meet the demand. This particular coin has seen a major price jump in just the last few years. Other dates in all three Barber denominations are just being realized as "sleeper dates" as market demand in-

creases. The trick is to be one step ahead of the market by purchasing these coins when you can find them. Use your trips to coin shows as a research forum, not just a market place. Take the time to note what date and mint mark coins are available in the various dealers stock and watch the patterns appear! I am still looking for certain date dimes that are hard to find and very much under priced in today's market. ❖



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SOME THOUGHTS ON COLLECTING BARBER HALVES, OR, CONCERNING THE ALLURE & MYSTIQUE OF A VENERABLE SERIES

by James Ryder

For the great bulk of the time since I began collecting coins, my showing of Barbers was really meager; 2 halves and a quarter. From my grandparents I had managed to cajole a few old coins which included a nice full-Liberty 1909-P 50¢ and a somewhat abused, (harshly cleaned), but also full-Liberty 1907-D 25¢. Then, a few years later, I found an almost completely worn smooth 1894-S half while walking along an old footpath. These coins, at the time, only interested me insofar as they were old and no longer found in circulation. This all changed on Christmas Day 1986 when I received a nice VG+ 1913-P half dollar from my mother-in-law in Rochester. This was before I began giving loved ones my "want lists", so she had been totally freelancing in her choice of a coin. It proved to be fortuitous.

My first thought, however, was probably something like: oh, great! Now I have another lonesome half to go along with the two lonesome halves I already own. Then, no doubt, at some point I started doing some simple research. The first thing I surely must have noticed, after seeing the incredibly low mintage of 1913-Ps, was the extraordinary number of low mintages: 47 issues, or nearly twothirds of the full set, under 2 million: 21 at under 1 million: The really amazing thing to me, however, now as well as then, was the affordability of even the lowest mintages. There were relatively reasonable prices attached to what must be, I surmised, somewhat scarce items. I compared these prices and mintage figures to Walking Liberty halves, a series I had been plugging away at since the beginning, and I could not logically account for the disparities. For any collector having limited funds and fairly modest means, the half dollar represents the only series of Barber silver coinage that can reasonably be expected to be completed - especially in the better grades - (F-12 or higher). There are no real "stoppers" such as with the dime and quarter. Please understand, this is not to argue against acquiring examples of those two series, both of which possess their own enticements and allure. I have several nice quarters and some really beautiful rainbowtoned dimes that I would be extremely loath to part with - and I surely will continue to work on those sets as well.

Recent months have seen prices finally start to push upwards for these old soldiers - products of a time when a fifty cent piece was actually a useful everyday unit of specie. Half dollars have always been my favorite silver coin, the old dollar coins being just too heavy and clunky to suit my own tastes. I still cannot help being of the opinion that the series remains greatly undervalued. Of course at the same time I have to hope that prices hold off just a bit longer until after I can fill that last empty slot.

In the twelve-plus years since I first caught the Barber bug, I have come to appreciate those substantial silver discs for much more than their investment potential. Very much like a successful arranged marriage, (I am supposing), a certain amount of fond attachment has developed over time.

Incidentially, around 1987 or so, when I was off to a good start with maybe a dozen coins along toward a nice F/VF set, I estimated it would take another ten years to complete it. Since many of these are some of the tougher dates, I now think I may be very lucky if it only takes another five years. But you know what? It is the quest as much as the prize, the journey as much as the arrival that makes it all so satisfying. ❖

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NOTICE

1999 ANA Convention • Chicago, IL

The 1999 ANA will be held in August at the Rosemont Convention Center. This is the same location as the highly successful 1991 ANA.

BCCS members should consider exhibiting or giving a Numismatic Theater presentation.

Please contact the following individuals based on your interests:

Exhibiting – Paul Hybert Exhibit Chair, 312/567-3976,

Email prh@ece.iit.edu

Presentation - Phil Carrigan, Numismatic Theater; 847/937-5129

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BARBER BITS

* Barber collectors visiting Las Vegas can view first hand the King of Barber silver coins, the famous 1894-S Dime. The coin, along with other rarities is on display in a museum at the New Mandalay Bay Casino. Admission is \$6.00. The coin is described as "a million dollar Dime".

NOTICE:

There is an interesting Web page on Barber Halves. http://members.tripod.com/ur PHolder/index.html

DEVELOPER FINDS 1892 QUARTER IN WALL OF CHURCH

A Denver developer found a first-year-of-issue 1892 Barber quarter dollar amid other historical items in a time capsule embedded in the wall of a church.

The old Broadway Baptist Church in downtown Denver is the site of Dave Edwards' Bell Tower Lofts project, according to a recent story in the *Denver Post*. The church has sat empty since the late 1970's. Neighborhood kids told him they had been trying to dig into the sandstone and brick wall where an inscription announced the location of the time capsule.

He used a handsaw to cut through the crumbling sandstone to recover the box, noting that the congregation had "forgotten" to leave a key to open the box.

He took the box to his father, a machinist, who filed down the hinges so that the lid could be opened just enough to slide out the documents.

Edwards said the hinges will be replaced when he gets a key made for the lock.

In addition to the coin, the small metal box contained a variety of church history records, a sketch of the original building, an 1872 Bible, and copies of the *Denver Evening Post* detailing a \$5,000 train robbery and the lively life in the small but bustling city just before the turn of the century.

He and his partners are in the process of trying to get the building listed in the National Register of Historic Places, He also plans to display some of the items found in the time capsule in a common area when the building conversion is complete. Other documents may go to the Denver Public Library.

BARBER BITS

UNIQUE 1900/1970-S QUARTER DOLLAR



Washington Quarter, PROOF Struck Over 1900 Barber 1970-S Quarter. From Bowers and Ruddy's Winthrop Collection Sale September 19-20, 1975 where it was cataloged as follows: "Unique-1900/1970-S Quarter Dollar -1970-S Quarter dollar in silver (instead of clad metal) boldly struck over a 1900 Barber quarter. Just when we think we've seen everything in numismatics, something like this comes along! This coin, unique to our knowledge, is a Proof 1970-S Washington quarter taken from a 1970-S Proof set. The coin is struck in silver, instead of the customary clad metal. That fact alone would make it a major 'rarity and worth a good sum of money. however, the fascination of this coin just begins here. The greatest fascination is that it is boldly struck over a 1900 Barber quarter. That's right, a 1900 Barber quarter! The undertype is sharply visible and all of the features of the the 1900 quarter, including the sharply-defined date, are easily seen! The coin weighs 84.5 grams, indicating that a slightly worn 1900 quarter, one perhaps in Extremely Fine condition, was used as a planchet. The resultant coin is a perfect strike, needle-sharp in all details. Under what circumstances it was struck will probably forever remain a mystery. Perhaps a 1900 quarter became inadvertently mixed in with the clad panchets used for Proof coinage. Perhaps the piece was made as a whim to create a rarity. Or perhaps there is another explanation. in any event, this coin must rank as one of the most spectacular and fascinating new discoveries of recent years. Valued by the consignor at several thousand dollars - and who can argue? A really remarkable coin!" It realized \$3,000 in that sale although its present value may be considerably higher or lower.

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